

# Merriam-Webster

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due



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# due

[adjective](#)

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\ 'dü , 'dyü \

## Definition of *due*

(Entry 1 of 3)

1 : owed or owing as a debt is due a full week's pay

2a : owed or owing as a natural or moral right finally got the recognition she was due give credit where credit is due everyone's right to dissent ... is due the full protection of the Constitution— Nat Hentoff

b : according to accepted notions or procedures : [appropriate](#) with all due respect

3a : satisfying or capable of satisfying a need, obligation, or duty : [adequate](#) giving the matter due attention

b : [regular](#), [lawful](#) due proof of loss

4 : capable of being attributed : [ascribable](#) —used with *to* this advance is partly due to a few men of genius— A. N. Whitehead

5 : having reached the date at which payment is required : [payable](#) the rent is due

6 : required or expected in the prescribed, normal, or logical course of events : [scheduled](#) The train is due at noon.

When is the baby due? also : expected to give birth has a friend who is due in April

due

[noun](#)

Definition of *due* (Entry 2 of 3)

: something due (see [due entry 1](#)) or owed: such as

a : something that rightfully belongs to one give him his due

b : a payment or obligation required by law or custom : [debt](#)

c dues plural : [fees](#), [charges](#) membership dues

due

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## [adverb](#)

Definition of *due* (Entry 3 of 3)

1 : [directly](#), [exactly](#) due north

2 obsolete : [duly](#)

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## Other Words from *due*

Adjective

dueness noun

## Synonyms & Antonyms for *due*

Synonyms: Adjective

- [mature](#)

Synonyms: Adverb

- [exactly](#),
- [full](#),
- [just](#),
- [precisely](#),
- [right](#),
- [sharp](#),
- [smack-dab](#),
- [squarely](#)

Antonyms: Adjective

- [undue](#)

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## Examples of *due* in a Sentence

Adjective My wife is *due* in three weeks. The bill is *due* at the end of the month.

See More (+) (-)

Recent Examples on the Web: Adjective The Anoka County Board has granted a one-month extension on property taxes, pushing the *due* date on taxes for the first half of the year to June 15. — [Matt McKinney, Star Tribune, "Metro briefs: Ramsey blocks picketing in residential areas," 1 May 2021](#) The babies are set to come home around their *due* date of May 7th. — [Delaney White, The Arizona Republic, "New cameras at Scottsdale hospital let families see babies in the NICU from anywhere," 28 Apr. 2021](#)

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'due.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors.

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## First Known Use of *due*

Adjective

14th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Noun

15th century, in the meaning defined [above](#)

Adverb

1582, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

## History and Etymology for *due*

Adjective, Noun, and Adverb

Middle English, from Anglo-French *deu*, past participle of *dever* to owe, from Latin *debēre* — more at [debt](#)

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## Learn More about *due*

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Time Traveler for *due*



**The first known use of *due* was in the 14th century**

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## Dictionary Entries near *due*

[dudism](#)

[Dudley](#)

[dudleyite](#)

[due](#)

[due corde](#)

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[due date](#)

[due diligence](#)

[See More Nearby Entries](#)

## Phrases Related to *due*

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[due date](#)

[due for](#)

[in due time](#)

[past due](#)

[with \(all\) \(due\) respect](#)

[with due regard to](#)

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Last Updated

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Look-up Popularity

Top 1% of words

Cite this Entry

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More Definitions for *due*

due

[adjective](#)



## English Language Learners Definition of *due*

(Entry 1 of 3)

: required or expected to happen : expected to be in a particular place at a particular time

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: expected to be born  
: expected to give birth

due

[noun](#)

English Language Learners Definition of *due* (Entry 2 of 3)

: a regular payment that you make to be a member of an organization  
: something that someone should be given : something that a person has earned

due

[adverb](#)

English Language Learners Definition of *due* (Entry 3 of 3)

: directly or exactly

[See the full definition for \*due\* in the English Language Learners Dictionary.](#)

due

[adjective](#)

\ 'dü  , 'dyü \

## Kids Definition of *due*

(Entry 1 of 3)

1 : required or expected to happen or be done This assignment is *due* tomorrow.

2 : owed or deserved Payment is *due*. Treat your teacher with *due* respect.

3 : in a proper or necessary amount I will give your idea *due* consideration.

due to

: because of "The common rat is highly valued ... *due to* his toughness ..." — Robert C. O'Brien, *Rats of NIMH*

due

[noun](#)

Kids Definition of *due* (Entry 2 of 3)

1 : something that should be given Give the man his *due*, he's a fighter.

2 dues plural : a regular or legal charge or fee

due


[adverb](#)

Kids Definition of *due* (Entry 3 of 3)

: [directly sense 1](#) *due* north

due

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[adjective](#)\ 'd(y)ü  \

## Medical Definition of *due*

: expected to be born in the normal course of events the baby is due in November also : expected to give birth she's due this month

Keep scrolling for more

due

[adjective](#)

## Legal Definition of *due*

1a : satisfying or capable of satisfying an obligation, duty, or requirement under the law the buyer's due performance under the contract due proof of loss

b : proper under the law obstructing due administration of justice

2 : capable of being attributed —used with *to* any loss due to neglect

3a : having reached the date at which payment is required : [payable](#)

b : owed though not yet required to be paid

4 : [reasonable sense](#) 1a, b

History and Etymology for *due*

Old French *deu*, past participle of *devoir* to owe, from Latin *debere*

More from Merriam-Webster on *due*

Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for due](#)

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- Choose the best definition or synonym for the word in bold.
- "There are some **eructations** that sound like cheers—at least, mine did." *Lolita*

**a clearing of the throat**

**a belch**

**a groan**

**a sneeze**

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### WORDS AT PLAY

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#### The Words of the Week -

5/14/2021

Words from the week of 5/14/2021

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#### The History of 'Bodice'

For our romance readers

•

#### The Ups and Downs of 'Raise' and 'Raze'

Are you building something up or  
tearing it down?

•

#### The Words of the Week -

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Words from the week of 5/7/2021

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## ASK THE EDITORS

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### **'All Intensive Purposes' or 'All Intents and Purposes'?**

We're intent on clearing it up

- 

### **'Nip it in the butt' or 'Nip it in the bud'?**

We're gonna stop you right there

- 

### **Literally**

How to use a word that (literally) drives some pe...

- 

### **Is Singular 'They' a Better Choice?**

The awkward case of 'his or her'

## WORD GAMES

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## Words Used by Nabokov Quiz

How familiar are you with  
Nabokov's unfamiliar ...

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•

## Star Wars Words Quiz

Is the Force strong in you?

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## Name That Thing

Test your visual vocabulary with  
our 10-question ...

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- VISUAL DICTIONARY
- SCRABBLE® WORD FINDER
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